

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 29TH MAY 2025 IN SKEEBY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs John Budden (JB), Chairman, John Frankland (JF), Vice chair, Keith Richardson (KR)
5 members of the public

Absent: Parish Clerk, Nadine Dudman (ND). (Meeting Minuted by Cllr Frankland)

The meeting was opened at 19:00hrs by the Chairman JB, who thanked the residents in attendance and stated it was nice to see them. He added that everyone knew the Councillors and that they were always happy for residents to approach them directly with any concerns/issues.

A brief input directed by JB to all residents, as well as the Parish Council, around the dangers/inaccuracies & often unhelpful issues created around posts on Social Media – JB emphasised the need for mutual respect.

1. Apologies

None received

2. Declaration of Interest

Agreed as required at agenda items

3. Minutes from the last meeting

Agreed that Parish Council (PC) cannot agree as correct because the PC believe they are NOT an accurate record – resolved that they be filed accordingly for the records.

4. County Councillors Report

No report had been received

5. Police Bulletin

This had been delivered by PCSO Elliot Brown in person at the Annual Meeting on Tues 27th May 25

6. To receive information on the following issues & decide on further action where necessary

6.1. Cllr JF gave updates in relation to speeding measures including:

6.1.2 VAS (Matrix) & the bid for funds through Harmony Energy (Solar Farm) – confirmed bid for funding £9146.56 had been granted & resolved to return the required invoice for release of funds
JF gave an update on the supplier situation with regards to the VAS matrix & it was resolved to order form SWARCO at Melsonby to ensure continuity of warranty/maintenance.
It was also resolved to contact NYC Highways for the installation of the matrix mounting post .
It was resolved to agree the payment of associated invoices accordingly once funds were confirmed.
(Action JF)

6.1.3 CSW – JF wished to record his thanks to the Clerk for printing & displaying the Community SpeedWatch Volunteer posters.
JF informed that Skeeby CSW team were hoping to arrange support from the NYP Safety Camera Team sometime in June.
Also to note that the team had interest from 2 (possibly 3) potential new volunteers as a direct result of the Annual Parish meeting on 27/05/25.

6.1.4 Campaign for Fixed & Average Speed Cameras for North Yorkshire
It was agreed & confirmed that this had been agreed at the last PC meeting (but not minuted) & it was resolved to support the campaign (Action JF).

6.2 Best Kept Village Competition

Cllr KR confirmed the “best newcomer” sign had been ordered & was still awaited.
It was resolved to clarify if Skeeby was entered in this year’s competition, & if so, to take up a kind offer from a resident to produce a poster to advertise the event (Action KR).

7. Play parks

7.1 No report available

7.2 Resolved to ratify the agreed decision around the emergency removal of litter bins within the 2 play parks with the reasons why.

7.3 Resolved there was no need to replace the bins – sufficient accessible bins & cost implications.

8. Village Green – to receive a report of any issues relating to the Village Green (VG)

8.1 Acknowledgement of a reply received from Skeeby Manor in relation to proforma letters sent concerning illegal placement of items/parking on the VG.

Discussion followed re advertising (A boards) boards on the public car park outside The Travellers Rest & JB gave a brief history of the VG change to car park & offered a map of the registered VG for all to examine. Further how the PC continued to be public spirited in supporting the area as a Public car park. The template letters had been sent to the Travellers Rest & SCPS regarding placement of items on the VG, although it was agreed that it was felt to be OTT for an email & hand-delivered copies to be sent.

8.2 JB read out a letter (dated 10/04) received from the Skeeby Pub Society requesting re-lining of the parking bay lines, and for the inclusion of a specific & separate Disabled Parking bay.

At the Chair's discretion, this item was opened to the residents present to allow discussion & seek views on the matter. Resolved that the existing parking arrangements seemed to be adequate & that there was no benefit to re-lining, indeed it was felt it may potentially create problems.

The specific Disabled Bay was felt to be an unnecessary requirement & it was suggested that the Pub/Pub society might want to look at the placement of a larger, more noticeable sized Disabled Parking Sign on, or near to, the appropriate entrance.

8.3 Resolved that proforma letters had already been received & following JB's suggestion regarding temporary display boards for possible placement on the bus shelter railings – it was resolved to include this suggestion in the reply letter to the above item by way of showing positive support. (**Action JB**).

8.4 Discussion around new builds at 42 Richmond Road

8.4.1 No update had been received re request to utility companies around disturbance to the VG – ongoing & deferred.

8.4.2 It was resolved to ratify a decision to meet with the developers re poor management of the site.

8.4.3 Cllr KR gave an update to the meeting following his site meeting on Thursday 22nd May 2025, and confirmed that upon completion, the VG would be correctly reinstated, & the PC would be given the opportunity to inspect the work and confirm (or otherwise) their satisfaction – ongoing.

8.5 Following repairs by Yorkshire Water on the VG outside no7 Pear Tree Close, resolved that they had been completed to a satisfactory standard, but since reinstatement, a works van had been driven over the site whilst carrying out works at no7 on 28/04/25. It was resolved that a slightly raised corner on one of the inspection covers would be remedied by 'mother nature' in due course – to be monitored. Agreed to send the VG proforma letter to the occupants of no7 Pear Tree in the interests of fairness (**Action JB**).

8.6 Elderberry tree stump outside 45 Springfield – item closed as dealt with by a resident.

9. Insurance

Noted – Parish Council insurance was renewed on 01/04/25, receipt received on 01/05/25, cover remained throughout & policy expires 01/04/2026.

10. Skeeby Christmas Lights 2024

10.1 Noted - £263.45 donation from Skeeby Christmas Lights team successfully paid into PC account.

10.2 Noted – Custodian of the Defibrillator (located outside the Village Hall) had been given the go-ahead to organise repairs/training as agreed at the PC meeting on Thursday 30/01/25.

11. Grit Bin

Resolved to agree to placement of a grit bin in Olliver Lane – JB to research prices for next meeting.

12. Resignations

An update was received on the resignations of Cllrs Rosslyn Dixon & Ian Moreton, with confirmation that the appropriate Casual Councillor Vacancy Adverts were now finally displayed on the PC website & noticeboards.

12.2 Resolved to change a previous decision in relation to the purchase of a leaving gift for Ian Moreton.

13. Planning Matters

13.1 Noted No Objections to application ZD25/00085/FULL – School House, 51 Richmond Road, Skeeby in relation to demolition of outbuildings & changes to boundary fencing/walls.

13.2 Noted that no further update had yet been received from Planning Enforcement with regards to a reported breach of Condition 6 (all guttering & downpipes shall be black in colour & fixed by means of spiked rise and fall brackets without the use of fascia boards) -20/00654/FULL – The Laurels, 42 Richmond Road, Skeeby. Planning Enforcement had written to the developers on 28/04/25 giving 28 days for resolution/amendment – ongoing.

Cllr JF suggested it may be worth asking for a contribution from the s106 payments from these new builds due to the disruption caused within the village & length of time taken.

Resolved that JF would investigate further & prepare a letter accordingly for PC approval (**Action JF**).

14. Finance

14.1 No financial report received from ND

14.2 Resolved to agree and approve 3 x payments now to be paid at a later date:

Clerk's Salary	£317.46	
YLCA Annual Membership	£162.00	
Skeeby VH (Hire & electric)	£170.00	Total = £649.46

14.3 Noted – no payment due to HMRC

14.4 To note some payments received :

14.4.1 Highwire Communications for bulb planting - £47.25 (**Action JB to check**)

14.4.2 NYC first precept instalment - £3,650.00

14.5 Unable to confirm the PC account balances at this time (**Action JB to check**)

14.6 Cllr KR confirmed he had been added on the Bank Mandate & Ian Moreton removed.

15. Clerk's hours

PC unable to consider a report from the Clerk concerning working hours – no report received & ND not present.

PC discussed contracted hours (3 per week), previous Clerks, changes in workload, asking for Timesheets to facilitate better monitoring of ND workload & appropriate support. Also re the recent amount of possibly avoidable/unnecessary work, & the subsequent requirement for a change / updated contract of employment should the working hours be reviewed.

16. Correspondence

Correspondence items which had already been received by PC by email were noted 'en mass'

16.7 Under this agenda item re YLCA (Yorkshire Local Councils Association) training sessions – the Chair JB stated he would be interested in some of the advertised training (**Action JB**).

It was noted that the weekly YLCA Bulletins received by the Clerk had not been forwarded to Councillors for some time & Cllr JF referenced the latest YLCA Law & Governance May Bulletin, which contained some very pertinent information & advice.

16.8 JB made the meeting aware of an official letter of complaint received by him marked Private & Confidential – he read aloud the correct procedures to deal with the Complaint, confirmed that the acknowledgement had been hand delivered within the required 3 days, & importantly that the Council had 21 working day to deal, which would necessitate an Extraordinary PC Meeting being called. Arrangements for this Extraordinary meeting, including availability of an independent person as minute-taker, and dates, were discussed – JB stated he would seek further procedural advice from YLCA/NALC (**Action JB / KR**)

17. Items for the next Agenda

None at this time

18. Date & Time of next meeting

Noted – Thursday 31st July 2025 – Skeeby Jubilee VH

Meeting closed at 20:50 hrs